



BDA Scotland Update June – August 2023

This document summarises recent key developments and BDA Scotland activities.

1. Covid 19 Recovery Inquiry

BDA Scotland submitted written evidence to the Scottish Parliament's COVID-19 Recovery Committee at the end of May. David McColl, Chair of the BDA's Scottish Dental Practice Committee (SDPC) gave oral evidence to the parliamentary committee on 22 June 2023. The Covid Recovery Committee has now submitted a [list of recommendations](#) to the Scottish Government, pressing for clarity on reform and finance.

2. Scottish Council

Sustainability Agenda Scotland

BDA Scotland was invited to sign a joint statement: Reducing the environmental impact of prescribing from The Royal Pharmaceutical Society, Scotland. Council agreed to sign the statement. The BDA is currently looking to develop a strategy on sustainability across the four nations.

BDA Branches

Members of the BDA Events Team attended the Scottish Council meeting in August to discuss ways to increase attendance at Branch events in Scotland.

3. General Dental Services

GDS payment reform

Following negotiations between SDPC and the Scottish Government, a new Determination I of the Statement of Dental Remuneration (SDR) will be rolled out from 1 November 2023. The negotiations were confidential in nature, [further information can be found on scottishdental.org](#).

The new Determination I will see just 45 items for general dentistry a significant reduction from 700, purportedly to make it less burdensome and simpler to navigate. Orthodontic items have not been reviewed as part of this process and the 'item 32' items have been retained. [The PCA \(D\) \(2023\)4](#) introduces the changes and lists the items and associated fees. Please see our [news article](#) for more information on 'What payment reform means for you'. The new fees incorporate the DDRB uplift of 6% on fee items and this uplift will also be applied to the Capitation and Continuing Care payments.

We will continue to support members during this transition and will lobby for further reform to the payment system in the future, depending on the impact of these changes on GDS services. We will also call on the Scottish government to consider alternative/ new models of care.

Meeting with J Minto, Minister for Public Health and Women's Health

BDA Scotland met with J Minto on 25 July 2023 to discuss the proposed Determination1 and the new fee structure. This meeting saw the conclusion of the payment reform negotiations.

4. Public Dental Service

SPDSC meeting: June 2023

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Scottish Public Dental Service Committee (SPDSC) meeting due to have been held on 20 June was cancelled. The next meeting of the committee will be held on Tuesday 19 September 2023.

Scottish Joint Negotiating Forum

Representatives from BDA Scotland, SPDSC and Scottish Government attended a meeting of the Scottish Joint Negotiating Forum on 12 July 2023. As the forum had been in abeyance for some time, a new draft Terms of Reference was discussed a number of issues pertinent to PDS dentists in Scotland.

6. Hospital Dental Service

Junior doctors – Pay Offer

Junior doctors and dentists in training in Scotland [have voted decisively to accept the latest pay offer](#) from the Scottish Government.

The result of the consultative vote saw 81.7% vote in favour of the offer. The turnout was 71.3% for BDA and BMA members who were eligible to vote. This year, hospital dentists in training in Scotland will receive a pay rise of 12.4% backdated to April.

For the following three financial years negotiations will take place with the Scottish Government that must “make credible progress” in real terms towards full pay restoration to 2008 levels. Inflation will be guaranteed as the floor for each round of ongoing negotiation.

7. General issues

Doctors and Dentists Review Body (DDRB): 2023/24

Following a letter to the Scottish Government on 6 March 2023 about their lack of evidence to the DDRB regarding dentists employed in the PDS in Scotland, we received a response apologising for the oversight and giving assurance that Scottish Government evidence which is submitted to the DDRB will contain information related to the PDS workforce in the future.

Consultations

BDA Scotland have responded to the following consultations:

- Skills for Health and Social Care Group: Paper 1 Job Family Analysis and Workplan
- SDCEP Prevention and Treatment of Periodontal Diseases in Primary Care
- SDCEP Emergency Drugs & Equipment in Primary Dental Care Update

8. Forthcoming committee meetings

Scottish Public Dental Services Committee	19 September 2023
Scottish Hospital Dentists Reference Group	2 October 2023
SDPC Executive/Scottish Government	22 November 2023
SDPC Executive/Practitioner Services Division	22 November 2023
Scottish Council	30 November 2023

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